

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US05/05714

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC: B01D 15/08(2006.01);G01N 30/04(2006.01) USPC: 73/61.59;137/315.27,597;251/215 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) U.S. : 73/61.59; 137/315.27, 597, 599.05, 606, 882; 251/215, 122, 332 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) EAST search terms: chromatography, sample, valve		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4,045,343 A (ACHENER et al.) 30 August 1977 (30.08.1977), entire document, especially Figures 2-3.	1-9, 11, 13-15, 18-27, 32-34, 36-41, 44-49, 57-61
X	US 2,589,373 A (HAMMOCK) 18 March 1952 (18.03.1952), entire document.	1, 7, 9-13, 15, 18, 19, 25, 32-35, 37-48, 58
A	US 6,257,052 B1 (ZELECHONOK) 10 July 2001 (10.07.2001), entire document.	1-61
A	US 4,306,587 A (TCHEBINYAYEFF) 22 December 1981 (22.12.1981), entire document.	1-61
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.		
* Special categories of cited documents:		
"A"	document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
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"L"	document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"O"	document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P"	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	
Date of the actual completion of the international search 26 December 2006 (26.12.2006)		Date of mailing of the international search report 05 FEB 2007
Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. (571) 273-3201		Authorized officer Stephen M. Hepple Telephone No. 571-272-4395